

THE TALE OF THE TWO REALMS

Throughout the book of Daniel, there is God's realm, the divine realm, and the world's realm. Many movies and books have been produced as 'good versus evil' stories. What story/movie is an example?

LEARNING FROM GOD'S WORD

Chapters 7-12 continue with prophecy about the future. Chapters two and seven reveal future kingdoms and God's sovereignty over all kingdoms.

A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF CHAPTER SEVEN

(NOTE: This is apocalyptic literature that requires study and correlation with the rest of the Bible.)

- Daniel was distressed by a graphic vision that he doesn't understand.
 - Four beasts represent four evil empires that will conquer the known world.
 - A scene from the Throne room of God who will allow these for an appointed time, but God will eventually judge and take away their dominion.
 - There is a kingdom of God which will not pass away.
- An angel (see v. 10) told Daniel the meaning and interpretation.
 - Future evil pagan empires (kingdoms) will arise and continue the evil for a time.
 - There is a "highest one" whose kingdom is forever.
 - The fourth beast is followed by a little horn (kingdom? King? Empire?) that will persecute the saints until God's judgment.
 - At judgment, God will give possession of the kingdom to the saints.
 - The fourth kingdom is different in that it will oppose God, wear down the saints, and attempt to alter God's laws for a limited time.
 - But God will judge, remove dominion, destroy, and annihilate this one forever.
 - God will give the saints the greatness of kingdoms and His kingdom will be everlasting.
- Daniel was alarmed and kept the understanding private.

Read through chapter seven and consider the following questions.

What emotions or thoughts do you experience as you read through this story?

How are each of these kingdoms portrayed? Why these?

What are the differences between God's kingdom and worldly kingdoms?

How is God described in this chapter? What is new or surprising to you?

From what you read, what is the main message of this story?

Why do you think Daniel kept the matter to himself? (28)

DISCUSS TOGETHER

How would this dream and interpretation have been significant to Daniel's people?

Have you had thoughts that evil is winning in our world? What evidences of evil empires are currently troubling to you?

Why would Daniel be alarmed by the dream?

What does God want us to learn from this story?

APPLY IT THIS WEEK

Fear, anxiety, and worry are the opposite of faith. Since we know that God is in control and that His plans are always best, God wants us to trust Him instead of worrying. Walk through your days and ask, 'What am I worried about?' Then, ask God to help you end worry and walk through your days in full faith in our all powerful and good God.

PLEASE JOIN IN "GATHER25" THIS WEEK

Please join in prayer with the world through "Gather25." You can join us on campus this Friday evening (<https://www.trinityonline.org/event/23926107-2025-02-28-gather25-prayer-event/>) OR HOST YOUR OWN "GATHER25" GROUP through the following link:

<https://www.gather25.com/resources>